[2'ded] 1643
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A LETTER FROM Mr. *MARSHALL*, and Mr. *NYE*, appointed Assistants to the Commissioners of *SCOTLAND*:

To their Brethren in *England*, concerning the successe of their affaires there, partly concerning the Covenant.

Published by the Order of the House of Commons. And Entered into the Hall-Booke according to Order.

LONDON,
Printed for *John Bellamy* and *Ralph Smith*. 1643.

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FROM
DAVID H. McALPIN.

A LETTER FROM Mr. *Marshall*, and Mr. *Nye*, appointed Assistants to the Commissioners of *SCOTLAND*.

Reverend Friends,

WE cannot but communicate unto you the good hand of God with us in the Worke we are imployed in, our Commissioners have most indefatigably followed their businesse night and day, having scarcely allowed themselves time to eate or sleepe, and have had to doe with the Convention of States, and Assembly of Divines, (both which we found happily sitting at the time of comming) the gravest and wisest that we have seene, and who we thinke are more sensible of our condition than we are our selves, the leading

men both of the Convention and Assembly, and (as farre as we can understand) even the whole body of the Nation looking upon it as the cause of Christ, and that they cannot but be ruined if we perish; we are fully and confidently perswaded they are generally resolved to live and die with us in this quarrell against the Popish and Episcopall Faction, and for the Reformation of Religion according to the word; we know multitudes are prejudiced against them as if we might expect no helpe from them but for their owne ends, but if you dare give any credit to our faithfulnesse and most diligent inquisition and observation; (having opportunity of conversing with the holyest of our Brethren their Ministers that are in the Kingdome) let us prevaile with you to beate downe all such unworthy thoughts and jealousies of them, they are guided by God in this worke, & we are perswaded will bring glory to Christ and requitall of all our former love to them. Some select men have debated with us of the most ready way to stirre up their people to come in readily, and they suggested and made it apparent that the joyning in a Covenant to be subscribed would take them all, and a forme was agreed upon, which when you see, you will easily discerne, hath beene drawne up with that warinesse as to expresse their desires as well as ours, that there might be no bogling at it. And when our Commissioners and the Commissioners of the Convention and Assembly had on Wednesday at night agreed upon the forme, it was the next day brought into the Generall Assembly, where we were present, and eye witnesses of what was done, where as a good introduction to it, the Letter from our Assembly

bly was first read, and entertained with great acceptation, (the Moderator solemnely professed that it deserved oft to be read amongst them) & then the businesses of the Covenant was propounded, and the forme read twice over. There were present, betweene twenty and thirty of their prime Nobility, we thinke neer a hundred Noble men and Divines spoke to the businesse before it was Voted, no man speaking against it, except the Kings Commissioner, who was answered and dealt with, with that wisedome, freedome, and resolution both by Nobles and Divines as your heart can thinke, though he professed that as a private man he liked it, and said after the Voting he heard a joyfull sound. In fine it was Voted and agreed to be entered into (for substance, for it was by the Moderator declared it was the substance intended and not expressions or words) assoone as they heard their Brethren in *England* agree upon it, we say their brethen, not limiting it to the Parliament, which possibly may not be fitting. And when you have agreed it (as we hope you will) we are perswaded the body of the Kingdome of *Scotland* will live and die with you, and we doubt not but they will be preparing speedily upon expectation of the Covenants passing amongst you. We scarce ever saw so much of Christ for us as this day in the Assemblies carrying of this businesse, such weeping, such rejoycing, such resolution, such patheticall expressions, as we confesse hath much refreshed our hearts, before extremely sadded with ill newes from our deare Countrey; And hath put us in good hope that this Nation (who set about this businesse as becommeth the worke of God and the saving of

Kingdomes) ſhall be the meanes of lifting up of diſtreſſed *England* and *Ireland*. We are perſwaded that the moſt dejected and ſad heart amongſt you would have the ſame thoughts we are now poſſeſſed with, if they were with us; we thinke twenty thouſand of them will come to your helpe rather then faile. And againe we ſay we hope you will quickly ſee a good Army with you; yea, ſomething done before, or as ſoone as theſe Letters come at you: continue with all earneſtneſſe as you were wont in ſeeking God, and be not diſcouraged, or ſuffer your ſpirits to languiſh; ſurely the arme of the Lord in this aſſiſtance extends it ſelfe towards you, In the Mount the Lord will be ſeene. Some of theſe reverend and godly Miniſters are comming to our Aſſembly; we ſhall not needs to intreate you to give them the right hand of fellowſhip, nor will we relate in what a hearty reſpectfull way we have beene received by them both in publike and private. We forbeare to write any more becauſe this Bearer will acquaint you with our affaires, (and diſtribute our reſpects amongſt you) and his haſt alloweth us no more time, but to commit you to the grace of God, and ſubſcribe our ſelves

Your moſt affectionate

and dear Brethren,

From *Edenburgh*,
Aug. 18. 1643.

Stephen Marſhall.
Philip Nye.

THe Letters we brought with us from ſome Brethren, melted the Aſſembly beyond meaſure, and have beene of great uſe, bleſſed be God.